

Until the New Normal continues:

Taking a page from this book I modelled my own practice as social enterprise based on social innovation and justice. Fast forward to this moment in time and I find myself thrust more centrally into the online world. One of the 21st century competencies in the Hub we encouraged, was digital citizenship and literacy.

I followed this path and made a concerted effort to enhance my presence on line, over the past 4 years, on LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter. As a result during this time and with the recognition I have garnered I have received many varied requests to contribute and support.

To date I have : a)Resourced Child And Youth Workers in various school board to transition their work to online support; b) Provided direction and support to restorative practitioners and equity professionals at one school board around culturally responsive, trauma informed, restorative practices for online pedagogy; c) Worked with the International Institute for Restorative Practices/ Canada to become more cognizant and responsive in its trainings to the realities of colonial settler impacts for FN/M/I and POC and BIPOC; d) Asked to review a new book on Restorative Activities for Education for an International journal; e) Asked to write a piece on what the new normal will like through a restorative lens for the only restorative journal in Germany; f) Asked to participate in a United Nations round table on Restorative Pedagogy Provided ongoing mentoring for one of the Hubsters as she develops her own social enterprise, Symone Walters; g) Continued a joint project to evaluate the Social Innovation Hub efforts and results over the 4 years of operation. Under the guidance of Natalie Wood, myself, Zuby Saloojee, Nerissa Hutchinson and Stephanie Cole moved our face to face meetings, work and analysis to an online platform. Stay tuned for the results.

While the journey into retirement....or as a friend said “working differently “ did not have this crisis in mind, it is significant that the seeds planted in the Social Innovation Hub seem to be bearing fruit in unexpected ways. As someone once said”prepare to be surprised “.